

January 18, 2005



The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
Room 383, Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

The recent storms, which dumped record amounts of rainfall all across Los Angeles County, also impacted our operations.

Castaic Creek, the flood plain area below the Castaic Lake Dam, overflowed its banks and the force of the water coursing down the creek-bed washed out approximately 70 yards of Tapia Canyon Road, the public access road to our Castaic Animal Shelter.

The only way members of the public can visit the shelter to reclaim lost pets or search for new animals to adopt is to go to the North Gate of the Wayside Honor Rancho where a staff member from the shelter has to provide a driving escort to and from the shelter. Our agency has no idea how long it will be before Tapia Canyon Road is reopened, allowing full, regular public access to the shelter.

The public, of course, can still visit our website at <http://animalcontrol.co.la.ca.us> to search for lost pets, and we have extended the holding periods for animals at the Castaic Shelter.

Despite Castaic's flood-related situation, the shelter has continued to function, and the facility is temporarily housing about a dozen animals from families forced to evacuate their residences because of localized flooding.

The department's Animal Rescue Team (DART) was activated twice on Tuesday, Jan. 11 in connection with special animal rescue operations. The first of these involved a donkey that was stuck up to its neck in mud in Agoura Hills. County fire fighters and an animal control officer from the Agoura Shelter were able to pull the animal to safety with ropes tied around its body.

Later in the day, DART officers were again activated to help rescue a horse stranded in a flooded creek in the Agoura area of unincorporated Los Angeles County. Because of the circumstances of this rescue, a Fire Department Search and Rescue team member had to don a wet suit and swim down the flooded creek to help lead the stranded horse to safety on the bank.

If you have any questions about any of these activities, please call me at (562) 728-4610.

Sincerely,

Marcia Mayeda
Director

c: David Janssen, Chief Administrative Office
Violet Varona-Lukens, Executive Officer

Marcia Mayeda
Director

Administrative Office
5898 Cherry Ave.
Long Beach, CA 90805
(562) 728-4882
Fax (562) 422-3408
<http://animalcontrol.co.la.ca.us>



Shelter locations

11258 S. Garfield Ave.
Downey, CA 90242
(562) 940-6898

216 W. Victoria St.
Gardena, CA 90248
(310) 523-9566

4275 No. Elton
Baldwin Park, CA 91706
(626) 962-3577

5210 W. Avenue I
Lancaster, CA 93536
(661) 940-4191

31044 N. Charlie Cyn. Rd.
Castaic, CA 91384
(661) 257-3191

29525 Agoura Rd.
Agoura, CA 91301
(818) 991-0071